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CONSTITUTION

AND

BY-LAWS

OF THE

National Veteran Club

"

OF THE UNITED STATES.

HEADQUARTERS: WASHINGTON, D. C.

Organized August, 1872.

This Constitution and Code of By-Laws adopted
November 30, 1880.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
GIBSON BROTHERS, PRINTERS.
1881.



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Gift
Miss J. W. C. Codman
March 1914



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CONSTITUTION.

PREAMBLE.

We, former comrades in arms, in order to preserve the grand achievements of the heroic struggle for constitutional liberty and union ; to promote loyalty, justice, and patriotism, and to maintain our free institutions, the integrity of the Union, the honor of our flag and the supremacy of the Nation, do hereby organize ourselves as an association, and, for our guidance, do establish and adopt the following Constitution :

ARTICLE I.—*Name.*

This organization shall be known as THE NATIONAL VETERAN CLUB of the United States

ARTICLE II.—*Headquarters.*

The domicile and headquarters of this Club shall be located in the city of Washington, District of Columbia.

ARTICLE III.—*Seal.*

This Club shall have an official seal, which shall be affixed to all official papers or documents of the Club. Said seal shall remain in the custody of the Recording Secretary.

ARTICLE IV.—*Membership.*

Any honorably discharged soldier or sailor of

the United States, who served in the War of the Rebellion, who is of reputable character, and is in good standing as a member of the Republican party, shall be eligible to membership in this Club, and may become a member thereof by subscribing to this Constitution.

ARTICLE V.—*Honorary Membership.*

Any person may become an honorary member of this Club who shall receive a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting.

ARTICLE VI.—*Officers.*

The officers of this Club shall consist of a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Financial Secretary, and a Treasurer, who shall be elected by ballot, annually, at the first regular meeting in the month of April, a majority of votes being necessary to a choice. They shall remain in office until their successors have been elected and inducted into office.

ARTICLE VII.—*Committees.*

There shall be an Executive Committee, consisting of five members, a Finance Committee of three members, and a committee of three on membership, which shall be appointed by the President of the Club.

ARTICLE VIII.—*Meetings.*

The regular meetings of this Club shall be held on the first Tuesday of each month. Spe-

cial meetings may be called by the President, whenever necessary; and he shall call such meetings on the written request of five members, public notice of which shall be given in a daily newspaper.

ARTICLE IX.—*Quorum.*

A quorum for the transaction of business at any regular or special meeting shall consist of not less than nine members.

ARTICLE X.—*Applications.*

All applications for membership shall be made in writing, and the applicant must be recommended by at least two members. Such application shall be referred to the Committee on Membership; and, upon a favorable report, the applicant shall be balloted for; when, if not more than two adverse ballots appear, he shall be declared elected.

ARTICLE XI.—*Fees.*

The admission fee for membership in this Club shall be three dollars, payable in advance.

ARTICLE XII.—*Dues.*

The monthly dues to this Club shall be twenty-five cents, payable at each monthly meeting. Any member in arrears four months shall, after due notice by the Financial Secretary, be dropped from the rolls. But he may be reinstated upon payment of arrears and a vote of the Club.

ARTICLE XIII.—*Penalties.*

Any member who shall appear at any meet-

ing of this Club, or on parade, in an intoxicated condition ; or who shall conduct himself in an unseemly manner ; or be charged with any misdemeanor, or any act unbecoming a gentleman, shall have charges preferred against him ; and, after a full hearing, shall, if found guilty, be expelled from the Club—two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting agreeing thereto.

ARTICLE XIV.—*Withdrawals.*

Any member may withdraw from the Club at, his written request, provided all arrears of dues are paid ; upon which a certificate of discharge shall be granted, on application to the Recording Secretary, and the payment of twenty-five cents.

ARTICLE XV.—*Amendments.*

This Constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the Club, a written notice of the proposed amendment having been given, in open meeting, at least one month prior to action being taken thereon.

BY-LAWS.

SECTION 1. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Club, when present, and to preserve order therein ; to sign all orders on the Treasurer for the payment of all moneys, when such payment shall be authorized by the Executive Committee or the Club.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of the Vice-Presidents—in the order of seniority—in the absence of the President, to perform the duties of that officer, as prescribed in the Constitution and By-Laws.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to keep complete and accurate minutes of the proceedings of the Club, to record the same in a journal kept for that purpose, and to notify members of each meeting.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the Corresponding Secretary to conduct all the correspondence of the Club, to keep files of all communications received, and copies of all letters transmitted.

SEC 5. It shall be the duty of the Financial Secretary to collect all moneys due the Club ; to pay the same over to the Treasurer, taking his receipt therefor ; and to report the same in writing to the Club at each regular meeting.

SEC. 6. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all moneys from the Financial Secre-

tary, and to keep the same securely; to pay all orders when signed by the President and attested by the Recording Secretary, and to report in writing to the Club the condition of the funds at each monthly meeting.

SEC. 7. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to perform all acts and to exercise such powers as may be prescribed and conferred by the Constitution and By-Laws not otherwise provided for; and they shall appoint one of their number to take charge of the property of the Club.

SEC. 8. It shall be the duty of the Finance Committee to solicit contributions, collect moneys, audit all bills, and to devise ways and means to support the objects and purposes of the Club.

SEC. 9. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Membership to investigate all applications for admission, and to report thereon, giving the status of the applicant, at the next regular meeting of the Club after the receipt of such application.

SEC. 10. The Recording Secretary shall be exempt from the payment of all dues.

SEC. 11. The Financial Secretary shall receive, as compensation, ten (10) per cent. on all dues collected by him, other than such as may be paid in at the regular meetings of the Club.

SEC. 12. The time occupied by any speaker, in debate on any question, shall be limited to five (5) minutes, unless he be granted leave to proceed by the Club.

SEC. 13. "Cushing's Manual" shall be authority on all questions wherein the Constitution and By-Laws are silent.

SEC. 14. The uniform of the Club shall be the Army regulation hat, with a gold and black cord, dark clothing, the Club badge, and white gloves.

SEC. 15. This uniform shall be worn upon all occasions of ceremony or parades, and no member shall be allowed in the ranks who is not so equipped.

SEC. 16. No smoking shall be allowed in the hall during the meetings of the Club.

SEC. 17. The following order of business shall be observed at all regular meetings of the Club :

1. Calling of the roll.
2. Payment of dues.
3. Reading of the minutes.
4. Reports of committees.
5. Unfinished business.
6. New business.
7. Adjournment.

SEC. 18. These By-laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the Club, one month's notice having been given in writing, and any of them may be suspended at any meeting, for a special purpose, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, but only for a single meeting.

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